

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A process for the preparation of a polyether-urethane comprising at least one allyl group which comprises, in incorporated form,
 - a) at least one polyether which comprises a group reactive toward isocyanate groups, and an allyl group,
 - b) optionally at least one compound which comprises at least two group reactive toward isocyanate groups, and
 - c) at least one polyisocyanate,and in which
 - i) in a first stage the compounds a), optionally some of the compounds b) and at least some of the polyisocyanates c) are reacted without the addition of a solvent, at a temperature of at least 60°C and at a ratio of isocyanate group equivalents to equivalents of groups reactive toward isocyanate groups in a range from 1.5:1 to 2.2:1, to give an isocyanate group-comprising prepolymer, and
 - ii) in a second stage the prepolymer obtained in step i) is reacted with the compounds b) and c) not already used in step i) to give the polyether-urethane.
2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, in which, in stage i), a prepolymer with a glass transition temperature T_G of at most 100°C, preferably of at most 60°C, is obtained.
3. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 2, in which the reaction in step i) takes place at a temperature which is higher than the glass transition temperature of the prepolymer.

4. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3 claim~~ 1, in which the compounds b) used in step ii) have hydroxyl groups as groups reactive toward isocyanate groups, and the reaction takes place without the addition of a solvent.

5. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3 claim~~ 1, in which the compounds b) used in step ii) have primary or secondary amino groups as groups reactive toward isocyanate groups, and the reaction takes place in the presence of a protic-polar solvent.

6. (Original) The use of a water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer which comprises at least one free-radically polymerizable compound which has at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond and at least a polyether-urethane in copolymerized form, where the polyether-urethane comprises at least one allyl group, and, in incorporated form,

- a) at least one polyether which comprises a group reactive toward isocyanate groups, and an allyl group,
- b) optionally at least one compound which comprises at least two groups reactive toward isocyanate groups, and
- c) at least one polyisocyanate,
as setting agent and/or as conditioner in hair treatment compositions.

7. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 6, where the composition is in the form of a hair gel, hair mousse, shampoo, setting foam, hair tonic, hair spray or hair foam.

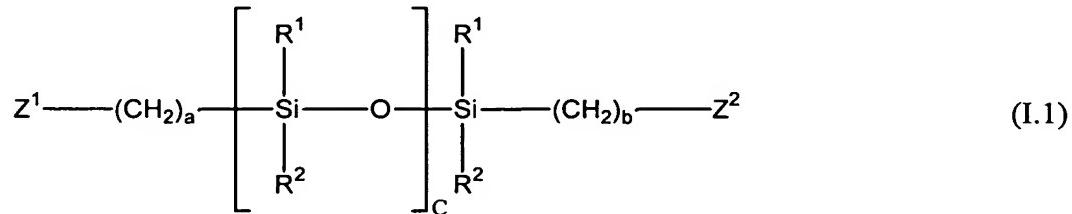
8. (Original) The use of a polymer as claimed in claim 6, as or in (a) coating composition(s) for solid medicament forms, and as or in (a) coating composition(s) for the textile, paper, printing and leather industry, and also for agrochemistry.

9. (Original) A polyether-urethane comprising at least one allyl group, which comprises, in incorporated form,

- a) at least one polyether which comprises a group reactive toward isocyanate groups, and an allyl group,
- b) at least one compound which comprises at least two groups reactive toward isocyanate groups, chosen from compounds b3) with a number-average molecular weight of more than 280 which contain at least two active hydrogen atoms and at least one siloxane group per molecule, and
- c) at least one polyisocyanate.

10. (Original) A polyether-urethane as claimed in claim 9, which comprises, in incorporated form, at least one compound b3) chosen from:

-polysiloxanes of the formula I.1



in which

a and b, independently of one another, are 1 to 8,

c is 2 to 100,

R^1 and R^2 , independently of one another, are $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ -alkyl, benzyl or phenyl,

Z^1 and Z^2 , independently of one another, are OH , NHR^3 or a radical of the formula II



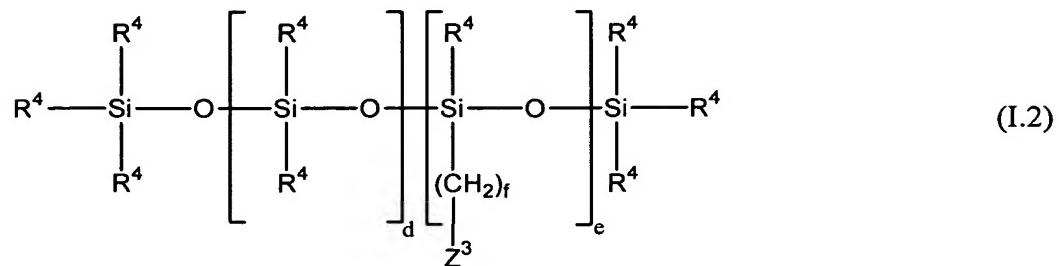
where

in the formula II the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary and

v and w, independently of one another, are an integer from 0 to 200, where the sum of v and w is >0,

R^3 is hydrogen, C_1-C_8 -alkyl or C_5-C_8 -cycloalkyl;

-polysiloxanes of the formula I.2.



in which

the order of the siloxane units is arbitrary,

the radicals R^4 are each, independently of one another, C_1-C_8 -alkyl, preferably methyl, benzyl or phenyl,

d is an integer from 5 to 1000,

e is an integer from 2 to 100,

f is an integer from 2 to 8,

Z^3 is OH, NHR^3 , where R^3 is as defined above, or a radical of the formula III



where

in the formula III the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary,

x and y, independently of one another, are an integer from 0 to 200, where the sum of x and y is >0,

and mixtures thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) A water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer which comprises, in copolymerized form, at least one polyether-urethane as defined in ~~any of claims 9 or 10~~ claim 9, and at least one free-radically polymerizable compound which has at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond.

12. (Original) A polymer as claimed in claim 11, which comprises, in copolymerized form, at least one free-radically polymerizable hydrophilic nonionic compound M1).

13. (Original) A polymer as claimed in claim 12, where the compound M1) is chosen from primary amides of α,β -ethylenically unsaturated monocarboxylic acids, N-vinyllactams, N-vinylamides of saturated monocarboxylic acids, esters of α,β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- and dicarboxylic acids with C₂-C₄-alkanediols, amides of α,β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- and dicarboxylic acids with C₂-C₄-aminoalcohols which have a primary or secondary amino group, vinyl ethers, nonionic, hydrophilic vinyl- and allyl-substituted heterocyclic compounds and mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) A polymer as claimed in claim 13, which comprises, in copolymerized form, a compound M1) chosen from acrylamide, methacrylamide, N-vinylpyrrolidone, N-vinylcaprolactam, N-vinylformamide, N-vinylacetamide and mixtures thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A polymer as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 to 14~~ claim 12, which additionally comprises, in copolymerized form, at least one free-radically polymerizable compound M2) with an α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond and at least one ionogenic and/or ionic group per molecule.

16. (Currently Amended) A polymer as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 to 15~~ claim 12, which additionally comprises, in copolymerized form, at least one free-radically polymerizable crosslinking compound with at least two α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bonds per molecule.

17. (Currently Amended) A polymer as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 to 16~~ claim 12, which is obtainable by free-radical copolymerization in the presence of a component d) chosen from

- d1) polyether-containing compounds,
- d2) polymers which have at least 50% by weight of repeat units derived from vinyl alcohol,
- d3) starch and starch derivatives,
and mixtures thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) A polymer as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 to 17~~ claim 12, obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

- 1 to 25% weight, based on the total weight of the components used for the polymerization, of at least one polyallyl-polyether-urethane,
- 50 to 99% by weight of at least one free-radically polymerizable nonionic compound M1),
- 0 to 25% by weight of at least one monomer M2) with at least one ionogenic and/or ionic group per molecule,
- 0 to 10% by weight of at least one crosslinker, optionally in the presence of up to 25% by weight of at least one component d), as defined in claim 10.

19. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a polymer as defined in ~~any of claims 12 to 18~~ claim 12 by free-radical polymerization in an aqueous solvent at a pH of from 5.5 to 8.0.

20. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 19, comprising a first polymerization step and a subsequent second polymerization step, where the reaction mixture between the first and second polymerization step is subjected to stripping with steam or to a steam distillation.

21. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition comprising

- A) at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer as defined in ~~any of claims 11 to 18~~ claim 11, and
- B) at least one cosmetically acceptable carrier.

22. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 21, where the component B is chosen from

- i) water,
- ii) water-miscible organic solvents, preferably C₁-C₄-alkanols,
- iii) oils, fats, waxes,
- iv) esters of C₆-C₃₀-monocarboxylic acids with mono-, di- or trihydric alcohols which are different from iii),
- v) saturated acyclic and cyclic hydrocarbons,
- vi) fatty acids,
- vii) fatty alcohols

and mixtures thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 21 ~~or 22~~, further comprising at least one constituent different from copolymer A which is chosen from cosmetically active ingredients, emulsifiers, surfactants, preservatives, perfume oils, thickeners, hair polymers, hair and skin conditioners, graft polymers, water-soluble or dispersible silicone-containing polymers, light protection agents, bleaches, gel formers, care agents, colorants, tints, tanning agents, dyes, pigments, bodying agents, humectants, refatting agents, collagen, protein hydrolysates, lipids, antioxidants, antifoams, antistats, emollients, and softeners.

24. (Currently Amended) A composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 21 to 23~~ ~~claim 21~~ in the form of a solution, a gel, wax, foam, spray, an ointment, cream, emulsion, suspension, lotion, milk or paste.

25. (Currently Amended) The use of a polymer as defined in ~~any of claims 11 to 18~~ ~~claim 11~~ in skin cleansing compositions, compositions for the care and protection of the skin, nail care compositions, preparations for decorative cosmetics and hair treatment compositions.

26. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 25 in hair treatment compositions as thickener, setting agent and/or as conditioner.

27. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 26, where the composition is in the form of a hair gel, hair mousse, shampoo, setting foam, hair tonic, hair spray or hair foam.

28. (Currently Amended) The use of a polymer as defined in ~~any of claims 11 to 18~~ ~~claim 11~~ as auxiliary in pharmacy preferably as or in (a) coating composition(s) for solid medicament forms, and as or in (a) coating composition(s) for the textile, paper, printing and leather industry, and also for agrochemistry.